



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s): Hofmeister et al.

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AMENDMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 4/5/05 in regard to the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is respectfully solicited in light of the following amendment and remarks.

Please amend the Application as follows: